

Copper State Mine
Maxville vicinity
Granite County
Montana

HAER No. MT-40

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PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER
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20-MAY 1

Copper State Mine

HAER No. MT-40

Location: Sec. 5, T8N, R13W
Maxville vicinity, Granite County, Montana

UTM: 12.326700.5149870 (A)
12.327170.5149950 (B)
12.326910.5149130 (C)
12.326820.5149130 (D)

Quad: Henderson Mountain

Date(s) of Construction: 1905-1930s

Present Owner: Unknown

Original Use: Mine

Present Use: Mining claim

Significance: This historic mine reveals much about the technology and engineering techniques utilized in a medium-sized copper mine of the early twentieth century. Remains of the mine are more extensive and better preserved than at any other of the Maxville area mines

Researchers: Craig Holstine and Glen Lindeman, AHS, Eastern Washington University, 1983

Transmitted by: Jean P. Yearby, HAER, 1985

The Copper State Mine is located on a high, partially-forested ridge at a point 1.5 miles northwest of Maxville. The features at the mining camp are concentrated in two areas: the ore bin, tramways, hoist, tailings piles, adits, and other mining remains are located on the north face of the ridge, whereas the miners' cabins stand about 1000 feet south in a hollow on the south side of the ridge.

Among the more prominent remaining features are a 40-foot-high board and batten ore house, an enormous tailings pile, several tramway grades, a collapsed hoist, a small log cabin, a tarpaper-sided frame structure, adits, shafts, and five buck tramway towers.

Ore buckets attached to cables were suspended on pulleys from the towers, and copper ore was hauled in the buckets from the ore house to a mill on Flint Creek, located one mile northeast.

Mining activity at this location began at least by 1905-1906, but prospecting work was probably done here earlier. By 1907, the Copper State Mine had produced \$2000 worth of ore. The mine was never particularly productive, although there were periods of intense development and excitement.

In February 1939, Granite County acquired the Copper State property for delinquent taxes.

References: William Harvey Emmons and Frank Cathcart Calkins, Geology and Ore Deposits of the Philipsburg Quadrangle Montana, U. S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 78, 1913, pp. 259-260;

F. C. Calkins and W. H. Emmons, U. S. Geological Atlas, Philipsburg Folio (No. 196), 1915, p. 12.